

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to a species election under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention are present in the claims:

Species A, readable on Figure 1;
Species B, readable on Figure 5;
Species C, readable on Figure 6;
Species D, readable on Figure 7;
Species E, readable on Figure 8;
Species F readable on Figure 9; and
Species G, readable on Figure 10.

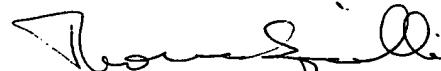
It is the Examiner's position that the species listed as A-G are patentably distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for species election, Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute the subject matter of Species A, Claims 1-10. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments of Figures 5-8 (Species B-E) are modifications of that illustrated in Figure 1 (Species A) and are thus not species separate from the species of Figure 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the claims readable upon Figures 5-8, i.e., Species B-E, claims 11-19, be prosecuted with the claims (1-10) of Figure 1 (Species A) elected herein.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343
TS:cm